

Mr. T. Muhammed Ismail : Is there any other officer who is given such a concession ?

Mr. M. Govinda Pillai : He is not an officer in the ordinary sense and he is in charge of a Commercial Department and brought down for that special purpose.

Mr. T. Muhammed Ismail : May I know whether there are not other commercial departments in the State ?

Mr. M. Govinda Pillai : I do not think that there is any other department of Government like the Transport Department which is reckoned as commercial.

ADJOURNMENT MOTION.

President : I have received notice of an adjournment motion from Mr. K. M. Korah which reads thus :—

“ I intend moving for the adjournment of the business of the Council for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance, namely the serious situation created by the pronouncement made in the Council yesterday, by the Secretary to Government and the Dewan that the Travancore State Congress, in view of the alleged propaganda by that body, questioning the soundness of the finances of the State, charging the Head of the Administration with corruption, and creating a run on the Anchal Savings Bank, is disloyal and subversive.

Now it will be remembered that yesterday morning there was a motion for adjournment of the business of the House. It will be also remembered that I gave time for the discussion and I asked the House to take it up for consideration at 3-30 P. M. Then it was pointed out by one honourable member that the discussion would infringe upon the time for the general discussion of the budget and the honourable member, the mover of the motion, withdrew it. Now the question itself was discussed at great length yesterday in the course of the general discussion. More than one honourable member referred to the views of the Government, the statement of the Chief Secretary, and the statement of the head of the administration, that the activities of certain members of the State Congress were disloyal and subversive. It is well known that so far as motions for adjournment are concerned, no such motion can be dealt with on a matter which has already been discussed in the same session. On that, precedents are clear. It has been ruled before that the proposal to revive discussion on a matter which has already been discussed need not be complied with. The decision is the same in England also.

".....May's Parliamentary Practice adverts to matters already discussed during the current session, whether upon a previous motion for adjournment, upon a substantive motion, upon an amendment, or upon an order of the day."

As it has been definitely ruled that no motion must revive a discussion on a matter which has already been discussed in the same session as is laid down under Rule 21 (3), this adjournment motion is not permissible. Moreover, no motion for adjournment on a matter on which, as I have said elsewhere and I wish to repeat—all the materials cannot be placed before the House cannot be discussed. Government have definite information regarding the activities of the State Congress both within and outside and it was with reference to such materials that the Government came to a certain conclusion which was adumbrated in that statement. Under the preceding grounds and also on the ground of detriment to public interest I rule the motion out of order.

Mr. K. K. Kuruvilla (*Mavelikara and Tiruvalla cum Pattanamthitta*): Sir, will you kindly allow me to make a statement?

President: Certainly.

Mr. K. K. Kuruvilla: We have been told yesterday that the activities of the State Congress are subversive and disloyal. I think the Secretary to Government has given three reasons.

President: The honourable member cannot discuss on that matter. You cannot make a statement on which discussion has been forbidden. If you want to make a personal explanation, you may do so.

Mr. K. K. Kuruvilla: I want to make a personal statement. This subject has been discussed so often that I do not want to raise it again. But I want to present before you, Sir, and the House that there are certain reaction in the case of individuals to things that happen in the State.

President: I do not want to curtail any freedom of discussion in the House provided that discussion is permissible under the Rules. It is open to any honourable member to make a personal statement, and under prescribed conditions members have the right to move for the modification of our Standing Order, move a resolution, an adjournment motion for the purpose of raising a certain matter of importance, questions can be put, legislation can be introduced and certain matters can be raised during the discussion of the budget. Apart from that, no other business is permissible in the House. I have already ruled that the question which was discussed yesterday cannot be revived in the form of an adjournment motion. Therefore, if the honourable member wishes to revive discussion on this question of the attitude of the Government with regard to the State Congress, he cannot do so. Subject to this restriction, and

ADJOURNMENT MOTION RE : THE SITUATION CREATED BY THE 149
PRONOUNCEMENT THAT THE STATE CONGRESS IS DISLOYAL AND
SUBVERSIVE.

knowing the honourable member as I do, and knowing that he will keep himself within the proper limits, if he wishes to make a personal statement he will be at liberty to do so.

Mr. K. K. Kuruvilla : It is perfectly personal. I shall be glad to do so.

A man does not join a movement without taking much time to think over it. I was rather surprised to hear that this movement with which I am associated, has been doing things underhand. I understand from the Secretary's statement that some secret manoeuvres are being engineered for the purpose of bringing the Government into discredit. I want to deny that statement. I want to assure you, Sir, that the party to which I belong desires to be honest, to be considered open in every thing they say and do. If we want to say anything against you or the Government, we will say it openly and plainly with the consciousness that straight statements, honest statements will be appreciated by you. I feel that the statement that this organisation.....

President : The honourable member will realise that in the statement that I have made, and—I believe—in the statement made by the Chief Secretary and Mr. Govinda Pillai, it was definitely said that the activities that were condemned by Government were the activities of members of the State Congress purporting to act on behalf and in name of the State Congress. The activities of the State Congress have been characterised in a particular manner. No name has yet been mentioned and therefore the honourable member need not, unless he thinks that it is necessary to mention any name, refer to any particular names. So far as the honourable member is concerned, as evidently he is a new recruit to that body called the State Congress, the question of the honourable member being personally responsible or charged with these things does not arise so far as the Government are aware. But if the honourable member wants to make a personal statement he can do so.

Mr. K. K. Kuruvilla : It is rather difficult to separate the personal from the general. So I do not wish to press it. But I hope I will get a chance to talk to you, Sir, personally about these things.

President : I thank the honourable member for the statement that has been made and for the assurance that he has given, which coming as it does from him,—I underline the word *him*—I am willing to accept at its face value. I am glad to be assured by Mr. Kuruvilla that if there is any charge that he has to make against the Government or against the head of the administration that will be made openly. At the same time, as is well known, statements made outside the House against the head of the administration or the administration are subject to the law of sedition,

[President]

which applies to the Government of His Highness. The honourable member knows well how to speak subject to that restriction. I did not expect any other statement from Mr. Kuruvilla. It is however due to him to assert that the statement that was made by the Government and on behalf of the Government with regard to the members of the State Congress still Subsists.

Mr. N. V. Chacko : Sir, on a point of information—

President : Is it a point of order?

Mr. N. V. Chacko : It is a point for information. If on a day for the general discussion of the budget, time is granted for discussing an adjournment motion, will such time be granted on another day for the general discussion of the budget? I do not know what the precedent is.

President : There is no adjournment motion coming on and so the question does not arise. The adjournment motion has been overruled.

Mr. N. V. Chacko : Probably, I did not make myself clear. Yesterday the adjournment motion was withdrawn because it was made to understand that no other time will be granted for the general discussion of the budget.

President : It is the law. Rule 74 (2) lays down :—

“On a day to be appointed by the Dewan subsequent to the day on which the budget is presented and for such time as the Dewan may allot for this purpose the Council shall be at liberty to discuss the budget as a whole or any question of principle involved therein, but no motion shall be moved at this stage, nor shall any member be entitled to divide the Council in respect of any such discussion on the budget.”

If that day is spent for other purposes, then no further time will be allowed for general discussion. Similarly in the case of other days also not more than four days shall be allowed for the voting of demands. That is the law. It is not a question of precedents.

The House will now begin the discussion on the demands for grants.

VOTING OF DEMANDS FOR GRANTS.

DEMAND I—LAND REVENUE & TAXES ON INCOME.

Mr. K. George : Sir, I rise to move for a grant of Rs. 10,54,613 under Demand I—Land Revenue and Taxes on Income.

Mr. M. K. Ananthasiva Aiyar (Nominated) : I rise to oppose the motion. The action of the Government in granting concession in Tax is really praiseworthy and the people are very thankful to the Government for the same. But it is a pity that